

FWP Region 6 1 Airport Road Glasgow, MT 59230

August 17, 2016

## Dear Interested Party:

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is proposing to purchase approximately 640 acres of property about 45 miles northwest of Havre. This property is adjacent to the Lost River Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and if acquired would be managed as a part of this WMA. The property is located along the Milk River and consists primarily of Milk River riparian habitats and associated uplands.

The primary purpose of this proposal is to conserve and enhance native habitats or rangelands that provide important habitat for wildlife species and to enhance public access to this property and the adjacent WMA. This habitat provides critical winter range for big game species. Protecting and enhancing the existing habitat is expected to maintain or increase use by game animals, including mule deer, elk, white-tailed deer, antelope, upland game birds, and waterfowl along with a variety of native nongame species of birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, and small mammals.

The Draft Environmental Assessment can be found on the on the FWP website at <a href="http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/">http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/</a>. The comment period for this proposal will be from August 18<sup>th</sup> through 5:00 pm on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. A copy of the proposal can be requested by calling 406-228-3700.

A public meeting will be held at the Hill County Electric Hospitality Room in Havre on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm to provide information on the proposed acquisition and take public comment.

Please send all written comments to the following address:

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Attn: Lost River WMA Addition Proposal 2165 Hwy 2 East Havre, MT 59501

Comments can also be emailed to: <a href="mailto:shemmer@mt.gov">shemmer@mt.gov</a>

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Falm

Sincerely,

Steve Dalbey

Acting Region 6 Supervisor Montana, Fish Wildlife & Parks